FYI

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October 29, 1979

Dr. Mary S. Metz
Provost Office
Hood College
Rosemont Ave
Frederick, My 21701

Dear Dr. Metz:

In recent weeks in pursuit of my scholarly studies I have had a black graduate student, Miss Wanda Brownlee, become deeply interested in the Civil Rights Movement during the last ninety days under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was slain in April, 1968. It is important for this young person who possesses great potential to have ten days or two weeks of intense contact with subject matter specialists in the primary documents associated with the closing weeks of Dr. King's activities. Dr. Gerald McKnight of your Department of History and Political Science has studied a great number of these documents and is currently preparing papers and other works relative to them; in your community is researcher Harold Weisberg, who is the most informed person on this subject in the United States and who possesses vast amounts of primary King documents.

To understand such documents requires close work with individuals who can impart knowledge of the classification codes of the several federal agencies as well as show the filing techniques, bureaucratic devices, and other special aspects of these evidentiary items. At the same time analysis of these materials requires expert knowledge of the historical event, the nuances of meaning objectivity can place upon them, an ability to handle controversial contents, and a whole range of similar subjects.

Through our funding sources Miss Brownlee will probably be able to spend ten days in Frederick, sometime in late February or early March, working long hours in Mr. Weisberg's archives and consulting with Dr. McKnight on his studies.

Does Hood College have a visiting scholars program that would accommodate Miss Brownlee who would require a minimum of a room?

Sincerely
David R. Wrone
David R. Wrone
Professor of History

cc: McKnight

Department of History • (715) 346-2334